

THE THREE BIG IFS IN ORCHID POTTING.

IF you can obtain a good grade of osmunda . . .
IF you can do a proper job of potting with it . . .
IF you know how to gauge and regulate your watering . . .

THEN you can grow Orchids in osmunda as well as they can be grown in any potting material.

Unfortunately, the grade of osmunda obtainable has been getting poorer and poorer, as well as more expensive.

Doing a proper job of osmunda potting isn't easy. Some never learn how.

Learning when and how much to water plants in osmunda always has been a problem—especially with folks who must care for their plants mornings, evenings and week-ends.

IF YOU ARE BOTHERED BY JUST ONE OF THE THREE IFS, you should seriously consider potting your plants in SILVACON. If all THREE IFS are bothering you, you should do more than consider SILVACON, and do it NOW!

You'll find the grade constant, uniform—ALL bark. No dirt, no wood. Price reasonable. Anyone who can pot a plant in soil can do a proper job of potting an Orchid in SILVACON. More watering is necessary, but not anything like as exacting as osmunda watering. You can attend to it mornings, evenings and week-ends without that constant fear of overwatering you always had. With the perfect drainage and slowness to break down that SILVACON affords, it is difficult to over-water.

Maybe costs aren't important to you, but if they are . . . just think how the money you save with SILVACON will soon buy that expensive plant you thought you couldn't afford.

Certainly TIME is important to almost everyone these busy days, and the time saved when potting in SILVACON is wonderful. Potting 35 mature plants in osmunda is considered a good day's work by most professionals. Those of us who have switched to SILVACON expect at least 100 to be potted in the same eight hours.

A FEW TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Any "trick" that may make your Orchid growing easier and less expensive for you is cheerfully passed along to you. Incidentally, it often encourages you to add to your collection rather than feel burdened by it!

The illustrations on these two pages show you how simple SILVACON potting can be. Step #1. Drainage crock has always been a problem—in the pre-SILVACON days. Small pebbles tended to slide through the holes in the pots. Charcoal was difficult to wet and dried out too fast. Breaking up new pots for crock was both expensive and tedious.



Step #1. Dividing plant; select-pot; using SILVACON chips for crock.

The larger chips—"Vanda Size" SILVACON bark make ideal drainage crock without doing a thing to them. Note these large chips in bottom of the 5½-inch pot in the first illustration. The potter chose this size pot because it will allow for at least two new growths on the division he is making—cutting through the rhizome of a double lead plant.

SILVACON he will use for the repotting job has been soaked overnight in food-treated water and had 1 teaspoonful URAMITE* crystals added to each quart of moistened SILVACON; mixed thoroughly. For regular feeding program see page K.

Step #2. Fill in around "bobbed" roots with handfuls of wet SILVACON, up to 1 inch from pot rim. Push one or two lengths #16 wire up through drainage slots; bend top end of wire over rhizome; pull bottom end firmly but gently, sideways around drainage slot and clip off excess wire. This anchors plant in pot until it has time to spread out new roots.



Step #2. Pack SILVACON around roots; anchor rhizome with wire.



Step #3. Staking and tying.

Step #3. Staking and tying the plant correctly are almost as important as a good job of potting. In nature, few pseudobulbs grow upright. Instead, they sprawl in all directions, but few professional or hobby growers have room to let them grow like that. Push a strong wire stake down into the pot at the back of the plant and tie the various bulbs to each other and finally to the stake—but not too close together. Each bulb and leaf should have plenty of light, air and room to grow.

BUY WHATEVER GRADES OF SILVACON YOU NEED, IN THE QUANTITIES YOU NEED.

SILVACON #00

This is UNgraded Silvacon, with about 10% large (Vanda Size) chips; about 20% small (Seedling Size) chips and the remaining 70% medium (Mature Cattleya) size. If you follow the above suggestions, using large chips for crock, the balance does not have to be graded to pot mature Cattleya plants. Or, you can grade it yourself, over ¼-inch and ½-inch mesh. It is the least expensive.

5-lb. hobby box, with URAMITE*	\$2.50,
(pots 12 to 15 plants.)	prepaid in U.S.A.
25-lb. box, with URAMITE*	\$8.00,
(pots about 50 plants.)	prepaid in U.S.A.
50-lb. bag (no URAMITE*)	\$5.00,
	shipping chgs. coll.
20 or more 50-lb. bags	\$3.00 each,
	shipping charges collect.

NOTE: When ordering 50-pound bags of SILVACON, please indicate shipping preference: Railway Express; truck freight or Rail Freight.

Rail Freight cheapest, 100 pounds traveling for same price as 50 lbs.

COMMUNITY POT MIX

Made up of finest grade SILVACON, plus fine chopped tree fern, plus fine charcoal, plus URAMITE* —all of it COOKED to kill fungus spores.

Per pound	\$2.00
(Enough for topping 8 to 10 3-inch communities. Larger grades are used for lower two-thirds of pots.)	

#4. Shows a potted division and back bulb, not to mention several plants in the background, waiting their turn to be potted in SILVACON. At the moment their roots are "Growing like mad" outside the pots, trying to get away from another brand of bark that caked so hard they could not penetrate it. In SILVACON, a few roots may grow outside the pot, but many more snuggle right down among the woodless, dirtless chips!



Step #4. Correctly tag all potted divisions, including back bulbs.

VANDA SIZE SILVACON

All good size chunks and chips to use in potting mature Vanda plants or for crock.

5-lb. box	\$3.50,
	prepaid in U.S.A.
25-lb. box	\$8.50,
	prepaid in U.S.A.
50-lb. bag	\$6.00,
	charges collect.

MATURE CATTLEYA SILVACON

This medium size grade priced same as Vanda size. URAMITE* is included in the boxes of both sizes; not in the bags.

SEEDLING SIZE SILVACON

This grade ideal for seedlings in pots from 1½-inch size to 3-inch size.

Per pound	75¢
(Minimum order, 2 pounds)	
URAMITE* included with this size.	

*URAMITE CRYSTALS

This material is recommended as supplementary feeding for all bark culture because it does not burn nor rapidly wash away. Instead, it gradually releases nitrogen, every time a plant is watered. For regular feedings see page K.

Per pound	\$1.00
(Shipped via parcel post, shipping chgs. to be refunded by customer.)	